

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT/FR2003/050186



PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference B 14131.3 JL	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/FR2003/050186	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 17 décembre 2003 (17.12.2003)	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 19 décembre 2002 (19.12.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC H01L 27/146		
Applicant COMMISSARIAT A L'ENERGIE ATOMIQUE		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.

☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of _____ sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 18 juin 2004 (18.06.2004)	Date of completion of this report 19 April 2005 (19.04.2005)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/FR2003/050186

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

- ☒ the international application as originally filed
- ☒ the description:
 pages _____ 1-21 _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☒ the claims:
 pages _____ 1-14 _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, as amended (together with any statement under Article 19
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☒ the drawings:
 pages _____ 1/10-10/10 _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:
 pages _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

- These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:
- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/fig _____

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-14	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	1-14	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-14	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations**1. Reference is made to the following documents:**

D1: US-A-4 206 470 (WHITE WILLIAM J) 3 June 1980
(1980-06-03)

2. The present application fails to comply with the requirements of PCT Article 33(3) since the subject matter of claim 1 does not involve an inventive step.

The subject matter of claim 1 differs from the disclosure of document D1 (see figure 2 and the corresponding text; see column 2, line 55 to column 6, line 21) only in that the electrode common to all of the sensing elements (see, in figures 1 and 2, elements 18, 124, 118 and 218; column 3, lines 56-58; column 4, lines 11-13 and 22-29; column 6, lines 18-21) includes conductive walls that fill trenches. However, this is merely an obvious alternative for a person skilled in the art seeking to enhance the electrical contact (in fact, the larger the contact surface is, the better the electrical contact will be).

3. Dependent claims 2 to 14 do not contain any

additional features which, combined with the subject matter of any one of the claims on which they are dependent, might involve an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)), since these additional technical features are either well known from D1 (see figure 2 and the corresponding text) or obvious alternatives for a person skilled in the art.

4. Contrary to the requirement of PCT Rule 5.1(a)(ii), the relevant prior art disclosed in document D1 has not been indicated in the description, nor has this document been cited.
5. Independent claim 1 has not been drafted in two parts, as required by PCT Rule 6.3(b), yet such a drafting would appear to be appropriate in this particular case, with a preamble containing the combination of features known from the prior art (document D1) (PCT Rule 6.3(b)(i)), and a characterising part containing the remaining features (PCT Rule 6.3(b)(ii)).